

doubt



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THE FORTEAN SOCIETY MAGAZINE

EDITED BY

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TIFFANY THAYER

DOUBT

The Fortean Society Magazine

Edited by TIFFANY THAYER

Secretary of the

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FIRST PRIZE

The largest orchid goes to Anonymous this session, for a snipping from *Kedook*. We regret that the snipper did not put i.e. (or his) name on the datum . . . Martin Gumpert, M. D., writing *News About Medicine* in the May (18 FS) issue, credits the Committee on Maternal and Child Feeding of the National Research Council with the discovery that human milk is "the best type" for infants, and that "breast feeding probably is the best method."

Wakefield cops the next largest posie with a moderate quake record made at Berkeley August 5, 1949 old style. The San Francisco *Examiner* states:

"Frank Romney, assistant seismologist, estimated the quake occurred either at the tip of Kamchatka Peninsula or near southern Peru." To which Wakefield adds, "somewhere around there . . ."

Castillo and Russell both supplied number three . . . Oddly, perhaps, a month intervened between the two publications. In the Liverpool *Echo* of May 7 and in the Chicago *Tribune* of June 5, the same story, and the *Tribune* credits a Reuters despatch of June 4 . . . That the Guildford fire brigade had been called four times in two weeks to put out "mysterious" fires in trees. Said a fire officer: "We believe that birds pick up lighted cigarette ends and take them to their nests."

The runners up were legion, headed by MFS Ferguson with this, from the front page of the Great Falls (Mont.) *Tribune*: "Yesterday's U.S. Weather Map on Comic Page."

A different Anonymous (but perhaps MFS Raven) sends an INS story from Stockton, Calif. . . . That "top mathematicians and physicists are discussing dice, cards and roulette today (June 30, old style) on the Los Angeles campus of the University of California . . . Dr. John H. Curtiss, Chief of the Applied Mathematics Laboratories of the Bureau of Standards . . . explained that a collection of hundreds of thousands of random numbers would have to be punched on a tape and

then fed mechanically into an electronically operated robot 'brain'. The machine then would apply those chance figures in reckoning what happens to neutrons emanating from radio-active material . . .

In the continuing and widespread uses of the Monte Carlo method (SIC), we need to teach the machine to form, within itself, its own random numbers, at much



greater speed than can be attained with a punched tape." And the INS reporter, with almost Fortean driness adds: "That is the problem that has the top scientific and mathematical minds baffled, temporarily at least."

Russell loves this one from the Manchester *Guardian* . . . That "a select committee of the House of Commons" approved (4-7-49 old style) a bill "to permit the manufacture of lipstick from reclaimed sewage fat."

Hoernlein contributes another commercial note, pointing up the function of Christian missionaries to the Congo. The Seattle *Times* quotes Esterre Erland, a "noted English fashion designer" to the effect that "ten thousand high-pressure textile salesmen . . . could not be doing a better job" for the world's textile manufacturers than the missionaries are. "In preaching modesty, they are converting 500,000 Africans annually to the use of clothing in place of banana leaves." Next, one supposes, Science will discover that banana leaves contain a vitamin essential to the health of white Europeans, thus ending the warfare between Science and Religion.

Dirty yellow-belly women are being urged by editorials in the Tokyo wyper, *Asahi*, "to buy refrigerators and expensive appliances" as a means of fighting "for equal rights . . . then husbands will have no money to spend at parties." Don't our Japanese cousins learn fast?

Two Roman Catholic churches in Illinois were raided in July for running bingo games, one in Peoria and one in Rockford. In each case a priest and three parishioners were arrested. No report of the disposal of either case has reached us. The Rockford case was "continued indefinitely" but the mayor is quoted as being opposed to a "double standard" covering gambling in the community. Cr Castillo and Reagan.

In March the Knights of Columbus advertised in big black letters in *Liberty* that Jesus Christ was "GOD . . . or The Greatest Fraud That Ever Lived."

Quite so.

In July the Virginia State Council of the KC adopted a resolution advocating that "Good Friday" should be a legal holiday in Virginia. Cr Reagan.

Oltcher provides a UP datum commendable to Federal Judge Jacob Weinberger in a Los Angeles court. A prisoner held on a narcotics charge was searched without revealing possession. Then the law forcibly pumped his stomach and later produced in evidence capsules alleged to have been found there. Weinberger dismissed the case, calling the pumping a violation of the Bill of Rights. As the victim left the court the law pinched him again.

In the same city, Attorney A. L. Wirin has filed suit against the chief of police in an effort to prevent the police department from wiring homes for dictograph, and a member of the City Council, Kenneth Hahn, has proposed an ordinance against wire-tapping. Cr Pollard.



Same city . . . A "large chunk of ice" crashed on to a roof in West 85th Street. "Just discard from a passing airplane," the writer says breezily. LA *Daily News* 2-12-49. Cr Bowring.

Russell supplies a fire engine which itself burned up in a Kent cornfield in August, and the news that Pakistan is manufacturing bagpipes for export to Scotland.

Elsender sends a lightning flash which breaks all records for marksmanship. It struck the plunger-head of a detonator which was set to discharge a dynamite blast 7,000 feet inside a tunnel at Pitlochry Perthshire. The dynamite went off, killing one and injuring several. The writer calls it "a million-to-one-chance".

The Chicago *Tribune*, Sept. 15, 1949, old style, asserts that the ECA has subsidized American book and magazine publishers to the tune of \$1,392,865 to supply "starving" Europe with books, etc. TIME, Inc., has got the lion's share, \$284,000, accto. the *Trib*.

Apropos . . . The Government of the Swiss Canton of Valais has banned twenty American "comic" books from entry. Cr Russell.

Another time-lag . . . Russell sends a cutting of the *Daily Express* May 3, and Lasko sends one from the Atlantic City *Press*, June 12. Same story about a fisherman at or near Sydney, Australia, catching an octopus with a full bottle of gin in its arms. The fisherman's name changed interim, from Ted Steck to Sam Elliott.

AIN'T SEEN NOTHIN YET

Accto the Chicago *Tribune*, June 12, 1949 old style, "Dozens of Japanese, including whole families, have committed suicide when confronted with tax bills they couldn't pay." The inference is that the tax bills were prepared by Japanese under traditional systems, because, the tax-payers are now "looking to an American tax mission to equalize a burden that is admittedly unfair, too heavy, and enforced by incompetent and corrupt officials."

Mama-linda! Wait till the dirty yellowbellies see their NEXT tax bills.

OUR COVER

Castillo gives us a portrait of the new Pope of Science, His Holiness No-clear Fission, robed in newsprint and kept inflated with daily blasts of sewer gas. Study the detail. The boy has done a bang-up job.

FISH-FALLS

Live prawns, in a heavy shower, could have been collected in basketfuls: about 2 to 3 inches long, some with chealate legs: October, the year 14 FS. Cr non-member Clarke, who found it in *Current Science* (India), August 1949 issue.

In Marksville, La., Oct. 23, 1947 old style; fresh-water fish of varieties native to the district, all sizes up to 9½ inches: calm, foggy weather, wind about 8 miles p. h. No tornado or "updrift" reported. Attested by A. D. Bajkov, of Oyster Laboratory, Biloxi, Miss. in *Science*, April 22, 1949. Cr Brooks. Picked up by *Science News Letter*, May 14. Cr. E. S. Anderson, Gingrich, Oltcher, Hoffman. Picked up by *American Weekly*, July 10. Cr Reagan, Wakefield, and many others. Picked up by *Science Digest*, September. Cr Otis. In many dailies, Cr Jacobs, Gee, Lavender, Hoernlein, Stanton, S. L.

Sprats—hit Patrick McGreedy in the face—six, then seven more, at Ballysagart, Donegal. London *Daily Express*, 2-15-49. Cr Russell, Deacon.

"Small" fish by thousands, about 4 inches long, during a shower at Hawkes Bay, New Zealand, July 13, 1949 old style. Cr Russell, Elsander, Morrison, Williams.



FROG-FALLS, ETC.

In a heavy rainstorm at Kasalinsk, in Kazakhstan, frogs, "city awoke to find them", morning of Sept. 21, 1949 old style. Cr Russell, Marshall.

At Oxford, crabs, 4 inches across, "invaded the city—some people suggest that they were dropped by a gale." Cr Russell.

Undated: called "bullfrogs"—Memphis, Tenn. "Reported by Patrolman C. J. Denkman."

Salamanders, 5 inches long, Portal, North Dakota. Hundreds fell "like rain". The natives never had seen salamanders before. October, 1949, *Outdoor Life*. Cr Pneuman.

A crawfish found 6 feet up in a peach tree "after a hard rain", at Eberton, Ga. April 5, 1949.

A noise in her fireplace wakened Mrs. Walker, Whitchurch, Bristol, England, in the night of Oct. 11, 1949 old style. It was caused by a sooty gold fish, flopping. The guess was that a bird had dropped it! A fishing owl, no doubt. Cr Harris.

FORTEAN LOSS

MFS Brod and several others sent in the Acme Telephoto of a fish with four legs, caught Nov. 1, 19 FS, at Los Angeles, but MFS Bowring, went them one better. HE sent us the FISH.

Accto Bowring, he went first to the newspaper office where the specimen had been photographed. There he was referred to a local embalmer who had the fish in hand. The undertaker—no taxidermist, as appears—had "dipped" the quadruped in formaldehyde. Alas, that expedient was not sufficiently preservative to insure transcontinental air flight in perfect condition. Bowring sent her (or him) air express, and that caused delay of delivery in New York City. So that the package had attracted a lot of attention in the offices of the express company before delivery could be made. In short, the package was opened by the expressmen and the Fortean destroyed. We mourn the loss, and we are impressing the express company with the enormity of its action, but we have learned by this experience too.

Members are requested to use Parcel Post rather than express whenever feasible.

Members are requested to have all four-legged fish "stuffed" by a taxidermist before sending them to the Society.

We are deeply grateful to Bowring for trying, however. Better luck next time!

A four-legged fish was caught near Tallahassee, Fla., January 18, FS. Described as 4 feet long, with 3-inch legs. The Florida Wildlife Association could not identify it. Cr Hoernlein.

Another—with "paws and claws"—caught at Berowra Waters, near Sydney, Australia, January, 19 FS. Identified by the Superintendent of Fisheries as an "Angler"—*Antennarius striatus*. Cr Molesworth.

ACCEPTED FELLOW DAVIS?

No other nominee for the annual Fellowship in the Society ever received as large a vote as Garry Davis, named Fellow, 18 FS. The membership likes him—and likes the international peace movement he stands for and goes to jail for. This, despite that the only publication in the U. S. which consistently reports his activities is *Variety*.

Davis was informed of his Naming as soon as we found a good Paris address for him. He cabled back a single word: "QUESTIONMARK"

His cable was dated Sept. 21, which was the day he was released from one jail. A week later he was in again.

On the same date, he issued this statement:

I have prepared this statement first to outline more clearly than I have hitherto some fundamental principles upon which I base my thought and action, and secondly to outline my immediate action itself and the reasons behind it. I should not like anyone to think that this was "guiding policy" for World Citizens, whether individuals or groups. This is simply one World Citizen speaking from his heart.

1.) *As a World Citizen am I also a pacifist?*

I believe the word "Man" implies being pacific. "Savage" implies fighting violently. Here I use pacifism in its most positive and outgoing sense, not as it is usually meant in the West. A man to me is a thinking and moral being. Should we therefore consider ourselves men, we immediately recognize those values which link all men, and united them with the Eternal. A clear recognition of this fundamental unity is coincident with a dynamic expression of unifying sentiments: friendship, respect, love, brotherhood, and hence clearly indicates a refusal to be driven by divisive sentiments: hate, fear, anger, greed, bitterness, lust.

To be a true pacifist today requires real courage and self-sacrifice. It is not a refuge for cowards, a criticism which has been leveled at it in the past. It means swimming against the gigantic and deadly social stream driven by fear-force, hate, and violence. It means not only turning the other cheek, but also loving the enemy, for the enemy is also a part of mankind, however misdirected. Therefore in this broader-than-ordinarily-given interpretation, I presume to call myself a pacifist. I hope I shall always have the courage to resist the evil of division—though I am increasingly aware of my failings and weaknesses—and be prepared to offer, in what little measure I am able, those unifying sentiments which I know fill the core of my being. I am aware also that I shall very likely have to suffer physically for my belief in Total Man, for in our given society it is not popular due to the many solidly-entrenched interests based solely on keeping men divided and hating and fearing each other. However I shall pray for the courage to bear patiently and humbly this suffering should it be necessary. Untold millions before me have suffered, bled, and died for the cause which I hold as my belief. To march with these would be for me marching down the road of Truth.

2.) *Why do I defend a french conscientious objector?*

a.) *Jean Moreau's case in brief.*

Jean Moreau, a young french conscript, was arrested on Sept. 10th for the second time for refusing french military conscription. When first arrested last November 8th he declared himself a World Citizen and a Christian, willing to serve in an international police force to enforce democratically-agreed-upon world law, or in the meantime to work in civil reconstruction in place of learning the art of killing his fellow man in national strife. He is now in the military prison of the 1st C.A.R. at Versailles awaiting trial. Be-

cause there is no french law for conscientious objection, though England, Canada, the U.S.A., Australia, New Zealand, Holland, Denmark, Sweden, Norway, Finland, and recently Germany, all recognize this higher moral right above national conscription laws, Jean Moreau will be convicted again, and sent to prison, whereupon he will again be served with conscription papers. Since, according to his conscience, which does not change despite imprisonment, he must again refuse, when he is released the second time, he will again face trial, conviction, and prison. This will continue either until a law for CO's is passed, world peace is assured, or World War III imposes upon us all.

b. My position as "guest", and its relation to his.

I am in France as a "guest" at full liberty and with no identifying papers—clearly an infraction of french law. I serve no national army, nor will I, believing the same as Moreau, and I pay no national taxes for national "defense". Only my moral stand as a World Citizen has allowed me this liberty and privilege. President Auriol, in welcoming me and my colleagues last December 24th, expressed his sympathy with this stand. The french people also at the Salle Pleyel and the Vel d'Hiv last winter indicated their support. Moreau however, upon expressing the same convictions is regarded in the eyes of the french law as a common criminal, and sentenced to imprisonment. Therefore if french law regards moral convictions as a criminal offense, I am prepared to accept that title, and must then humbly seek my punishment by asking to serve with the other "criminal". Until proper legislation is passed by the National Assembly or guaranteed morally by President Auriol thereby releasing Moreau and any others under the same category, I see no other alternative.

I should like to believe that I could be a living witness to the 1st Article of the Draft International Declaration of Human Rights proclaimed by the United Nations on the 10th of December, 1948, and heartily endorsed by the government of France which says:

"All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience, and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood."

It seems to me that if the government of France really believes in the "dignity and rights" of the human being, that we are "endowed with reason and conscience", and that we should "act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood", as they have officially proclaimed in the United Nations, and as I am sure each government official believes fully, the omission of this recognition in their own national law must be quickly rectified, or one must be led to believe that their avowed sentiments lack concrete foundation.

c. Not being a french citizen should I interest myself in strictly french affairs?

A criticism has been made that since I am not a french citizen and in fact a

guest of France, that I should not meddle in strictly french affairs, that I should be grateful for the privileges I enjoy. But I must ask: "If the privileges I enjoy have been bought by moral convictions, because Moreau was born in France, does that make his conscience different from mine? If my very freedom constitutes an injustice, should I not protest and act against this freedom no matter where I am? Should I count my blessing smugly while another counts the bars between him and my liberty? I am here only by the grace of the french people. Should I not continue to express and act by the same convictions which I believe the french people consider valid?" Indeed, if I did not defend these convictions, I should be betraying the confidence which both President Auriol and the french people have placed in me, not to mention World Citizens in other countries.

d. Am I attempting to undermine the defense of the West?

This is also a familiar accusation. I am continually amazed by it. I must ask the accuser: "Where then does peace start? And of what does this precious defense consist? Is it at the defense of atom bombs, deadly bacteria, bio-chemical weapons, tens of thousands of warplanes, hundreds of warships, tens of millions of machine-guns and flame-throwers, billions of ordinary bullets, and no doubt many still-secret weapons of which we ordinary civilians will only become aware when the screech of 'War Declared!' is heard over our radios, that they speak? Does this frantic preparation for final destruction in the name of 'defense' afford them the security they desire?" I do not mean to be presumptuous, but for me it does not, and I am led to believe that they are simply misdirected in their reasoning. The lessons of the first two world wars are all around us. For me, and no doubt for many of us, the era of violence is dead, though not yet buried. We will only evolve and surmount our terrifying problems on a higher level: the "reason and conscience" recognized by the United Nations itself; and it would seem that the sooner we individually and then collectively learn of this tremendous force of Non-Violence in its most positive active sense, the sooner we shall be able to emerge with true freedom into our One World civilization.

e. Does the concept of Non-Violence exclude service in an international police force?

May I add here that contrary to former statements, according to my new awareness, I do not feel it necessary to state that I would serve in an international police force as an aviator to enforce world law. If it is violence itself we must overcome by non-violent forces, in our triumph over this evil, shall we not learn and practice new methods of taking care of what are commonly called criminal types? Modern penologists are in fact using psychiatric methods based on non-violence, respect, and even love to rehabilitate men's minds, recognizing that criminality is a mental disease and cannot be cured by applying doses of the same disease. However this is exactly what we,

in our Western civilization are doing: We preach violence as a cure for violence, and consequently only get more sick and more criminal. The final result, should we continue this insanity, will be our spiritual and physical death by the very violence we are trying to overcome.

3. How can I best present my petition (Plan of Action)

a. My first step after Moreau's arrest was a letter to the President.

On September 13th, I addressed a letter to President Auriol expressing briefly the sentiments above. I added that I would gladly serve with Moreau until a law for conscientious objection was legislated by the Assembly, or was morally guaranteed by the President. So far, I have received no answer.

b. Therefore, my second-step was direct action.

I can only believe that I did not present my petition clearly enough, for I am confident that he would not remain mute upon fully understanding the facts. Therefore, so that Mr. Auriol or the proper authorities could not doubt the sincerity of my intentions, I have moved yesterday before the door of the military prison at rue du Cherche Midi to present a living testament of my belief. I am fully aware that remaining here day and night is breaking a local police regulation, however since I am living illegally in France anyway, and my purpose in being here is to do penance for this infraction, I must consider the new infraction as a part of my penance.

c. My third step, should there need to be one, will include others.

Should the authorities not recognize my right to go to prison with Moreau within five days, on Next Monday I shall presume to ask ten citizens of France to stand with me. I am confident that I shall find at least ten also motivated by the desire to "act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood." They must be prepared of course to go to jail with me. Being motivated solely by their conscience and reason, they will naturally be non-violent in action and thought. It will take courage and sacrifice on the part of these first ten. They might face possible ridicule and public scorn though I sincerely hope not. They may be called cowards and parasites. But in reality they will be telling the world and their fellow citizens that they are willing to suffer themselves for the colossal misdirection of their society, and in living example, democratic possible unity through the divine spark of individual conscience.

Perhaps I should add that should an attempt be made to disperse us forcefully, we must stand our ground unflinchingly without striking back. It is only thus that we can demonstrate fully the positive and outgoing aspect of conscientious objection. Should we resort to violence ourselves, it will only mean that our individual moral conviction wasn't strong enough, and those of us who thus weaken, naturally weaken our cause.

d. Then other nationalities.

Though it does not seem likely, should the authorities not place us with Moreau

or take subsequent action within two days, to clearly show them that conscience and brotherhood risen far above all national and other men-made divisions, we will call upon ten men or women of other nationalities. It gives me a great joy to be able to give those who talk of humanity and brotherhood a concrete way to put their words into action. Their convictions must run as deep as ours. They must therefore be prepared to enter prison with us. They must not expect help from their respective embassies. When it is clearly seen that citizens of other nations are willing to suffer for a man born in France claiming the moral right to work for and love his fellow man rather than be trained in killing him, as Jesus, Buddha, Lao Tsu, Tolstoy, St. Francois of Assisi, Gahndi, and other great thinkers and religious leaders have taught, the world may begin to understand that the conscience of Man itself rises above all artificially-created divisions and fears.

e. A possible action for those nations which have endorsed the International Declaration of Human Rights other than France.

Should the french authorities finally recognize our right and willingness to serve with Moreau, and place us all in prison, it seems to me that the only way in which the respective governments of these second ten Non-Violent Resistors could aid their citizens and effect their release from the french jail, would be to petition through their diplomatic offices, using the International Bill of Human Rights as their basis, either to the United Nations itself, or directly to the French government for legislation regarding conscientious objection. Other governments might also express their sympathy. It seems hardly necessary to add that individuals, church groups, peace organizations, Youth organizations or others, and of course World Citizens, either in groups or individually, who support my stand in principle or in practice, might also express their sympathy by letter or petition either to President Auriol or directly to the French National Assembly.

f. Does the question of deportation arise?

I will not allow myself to believe that France, which so graciously accepted me for the same moral convictions upon which I am attempting to act today, would deport me for this very action. They are aware I am sure that I should merely enter another sovereign-state prison for I possess no papers. And even should another nation allow me entry without papers—thereby abrogating their own law, I should still feel morally obliged to seek prison while Moreau was still incarcerated. Frankly I should be quite saddened if the french authorities imposed this duty on another nation, which is clearly their own. For me, it would be a clear denial of the value of moral convictions which they have once recognized as valid. If this recognition is so clearly refuted, then freedom is mockery. I beg of them to try to understand that the easiest solution is simply to place me beside Moreau as quickly as possible.

On September 28, Davis was arrested again, and from Cell 62 in the Prison de la Sante, Paris, he wrote this letter:

Dear Mr. Thayer:

I am overwhelmed! The Fortean Society! The only real terrestrial society of thought. I am delightfully and gratefully carried back to my astounding story days. Is your pamphlet really true? Is there really a body of men whose credo is "I'm not convinced"? Whose vision isn't dulled into vacant staring by the great 20th century god, Statism? And am I to be listed among their fellowship? Indeed I am overwhelmed.

Charles Fort's name was introduced to me many years ago in the pages of the above mentioned magazine which was a constant companion. Other interests did not dull my enthusiasm but merely shelved it, and therefore I never availed myself of his book. Please, by all means send me his book.

As to the honor of my nomination, I can say little. Naturally, I do not deserve it and it would take little enough to convince those who so honored me. I claim no literary talent, having not even a pamphlet to my credit, and as for my mental capabilities next to those former Fellows, I am a dullard indeed. If my activities toward world peace are to be considered, they are miniscule and pitiful enough in view of our collective march toward savage suicide.

However, do I agree to become an active member? Allow me to put it this way. Your principles seem to be mine, our spirits fused by the same eternal quest. Besides Frank Lloyd Wright is a 1st magnitude star in my spiritual heaven. But I am an anti-joiner. It is against my very nature to become a member of anything. Something within me rebels. I am just me, Garry Davis, terrestrial. Given the roving spirit of your society, it may be a contradiction to say that for me it would be a limiting factor to become a Fortean technically.

Frankly, even "world Citizen" is too confining. "Terrestrial" is no doubt better for it implies the space-time continuum, but even this doesn't take in the 5th, 6th, and 7th plus dimensions.

However, the question mark in my cable wasn't a gag. It was fundamental. I am undecided. A new count is needed certainly. A new Society must be born somewhere and it must have a name. Fortean? Again, I don't know. I must have an evolutionary moment to consider. Even though the direction is obviously right and the motivation positive and therefore true, organization solidification terrifies me.

But allow me to add with all this negativity that I am grateful and thrilled that you thought of me, and I shall count it a singular honor and privilege to meet Fortean members should my present activities some day lead me back home.

Sincerely,

(signed) Garry Davis

Accordingly, we proudly record that for the year 18 FS, Garry Davis is the Accepted Fellow?

THE CHAPTERS

Some confusions are arising from the efforts of individual members to organize Forteans who reside in the same locality as themselves into Chapters. The confusions are inherent in the word "organize", which is in itself anathema to nine Forteans out of ten. To the date of writing, the Society might boast, if it wished to, that its membership includes a larger percentage of men and women who "belong" to no other labelled group than any other brotherhood known, among categories less inclusive than the human race or one of the three sexes. It is expressly *because* nobody connected with the Society—and Your Secretary least of all—ever has attempted to "organize" them that these admirably non-joining, flaming individualists do not mind being entered upon our rolls, and welcome the opportunity to make this one exception among societies as such. Indeed we have scores of letters congratulating us upon the achievement of an association which partakes of organizational virtues, but imposes none of the well known penalties.

Probably the Fortean Society is unique in this. At least, YS is not aware of any other successfully functioning, ideal anarchy, and it is this eminently Fortean ideal state which suffers when local go-getters attempt to impose commonplace conceptions of organization upon their neighbor-members.

In the heat of enthusiasm for the vitality of Fortean philosophy, individuals frequently are inspired to carry The Word to the masses, to meet together and to rally and urge the gentiles to see the Light. An Admirable aim, and every such enthusiast obtains the full cooperation of YS. This is not the only reason men have had for wishing to found Chapters, but is the most usual one, and as long as these local activities do not menace the fame of Charles Fort or the fair name of the Society, even the Smart Apples are encouraged. (By definition, a "Smart Apple" is a Johnny-Come-Lately who thinks he knows a Good Thing when he see it. Cr George Ade.)

Unfortunately, the founding of a Chapter is not an unmixed or absolute good. To begin with, in every city where Fortean meetings are held, the members who will NOT attend outnumber those who will by between ten and twenty to one. The non-joining group disparages "lodge meetings", cannot bear the sound of a gavel, refuse to bow to *Robert's Rules of Order* or any other parliamentary procedure or to the will of the majority as expressed by balloting. One may call them snobs or poor democrats, Fascists, Reds or whatever, but there is nothing un-Fortean in their attitude, and if they don't wish to attend meetings there is no reason why they should. Nonetheless, the local Chapter or its organizer is likely to feel that the group which does meet IS the Fortean Society in that neighborhood, and to feel that by the group's actions, votes and resolutions it speaks for Forteanism and for the Society. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The Chapters have no "official" stand-

ing whatsoever with the Fortean Society. They are social or study groups, subject only to such rules as they themselves agree to observe. No two Chapters have the same rules, and none of any of their rules stems from Charles Fort, from the Fortean Society or from YS. If fees or local dues are collected, to pay for the hall or for refreshments or for any other purpose, they are disbursed or retained by the Chapter which collects them. No part of such money is ever sent to the Fortean Society. If members are "expelled" from Chapters for non-payment of such dues, or are denied admittance to meetings for any other reason, this does not change their status with the Society. No MFS is any less a member for anything a local organizer or locally elected "officer" may say or do. The Fortean Society takes no cognizance of local elections beyond reporting their results as news. The Society does not sponsor any candidates or bless any winners: it does not issue "charters", "authorities", or "privileges": it does not accept responsibility for any speech or action of Chapter "officers". The Society does not grant any member or group of members "exclusive rights" to any territory. Cities as large as New York, Chicago or San Francisco may have a dozen Chapters each if the members wish it. So, if members do not get along with one group, and still wish to meet—they are assured the same cooperation from YS that others have obtained, and may form a Chapter of their own. The more the merrier.

No prejudice for or against Chapters is to be inferred from the above, and no valid charge of "dictatorship" can be dredged up from it. YS has for 20 years scrupulously avoided handing out any "official" interpretation of Charles Fort, and he has sedulously defended the right of every reader to find in Fort what he will and can. This statement is published here in furtherance of that perfect freedom for all. More specifically, it is published:

1. To inform the entire membership that local Chapters and/or their "officers" have no jurisdiction over nearby Fortean residents, or over any other members of the Society.
2. To inform the entire membership that Your Secretary has no wish or inclination to dictate Chapter policies or trends.
3. To deny to Chapters and/or their "officers" the right or privilege to publish or utter anything purporting to be an official expression of Forteanism, or to pretend to speak with the voice of the Fortean Society.
4. To disclaim responsibility for anything which a Chapter and/or its "officers" may say or do within the Chapter or in dealing with the world outside it.

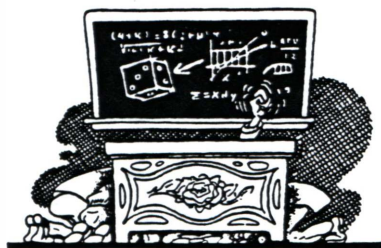
Members are requested to send all data to YS, directly, themselves, by their own hands. When data is turned over to Chapter "officers", that is too often the last of it. Be so kind as to use duplicate data for local discussion and investigation.

This is the only possible means to effect international correlations. The Society is the clearing house for data from all over the world. Besides, the individual member's opinion of what is Fortean and what is not may easily be superior to the judgment of a local "officer" or to a consensus of the Chapter.

If "minutes" of Chapter meetings are kept, copies are extremely welcome. Those of general Fortean interest will be published in DOUBT. Whether minutes are kept or not, individual accounts of meetings are equally welcome. "The Chair" is seldom aware of when it talks too much—and almost never reports it.

JESUIT PUBLICITY

A press release of the National Catholic Welfare Conference News Service credited an anonymous priest with driving an anonymous devil out of an anonymous boy with no home address, Aug. 20, old style. Cr Wakefield, Bond, Oltcher, Mills, Young, E. S. Anderson, McMahon, Kerr, Small, Mary Ferguson, Reagan.



J. B. Rhine and others of his crew were in on the deal. The Scientific craphshooters have not made much progress toward "scientific" investigation of alleged spiritistic phenomena, although their attempts to muscle into the field date from the year 14 FS. If the scientists don't want to play, bring on the Jesuits. They have more dough than the scientists anyway.

Through May and into July, poltergeist phenomena were reported centering about Jerome Greten, 11, two and a half miles from Lively Grove, Ill. "The Catholic church has taken over the case." The Gretens "are not particularly concerned, apparently, over their 'spirit' but don't welcome skeptical strangers." Cr—besides those above—Willis, Cooperstein, Creviston and others.

Two other cases: Caroline Chalupka, ten years old, active in Brucks, Austria, as of April 11. The little girl had butter in her hair. W. W. Roberts, a Negro preacher, Petersburg, Va. Bottles and flower pots were broken.

NEVER KICK A LADY

The lady we are not going to kick is Lilith Lorraine, a sometime pretending Fortean who promotes doggerel of the lowest order in her magazine, *DIFFERENT*, under the blanket justification that it is "sane". SANE, it may be, but

poetry, it is not, and no publication has been so flagrantly misnamed as *Different* since a newspaper in Seattle was christened "the *Intelligencer*".

We commended *Different* in these columns for some of its war-time prose, and we still admire those bellicose attitudes, but members who subscribed on our recommendation have complained bitterly and even threatened to make us read Lilith's verses if we ever slip so badly again.

Different is copyright by Avalon World Arts Academy, Rogers, Arkansas, and bills itself, "the Voice of the Cultural Renaissance." The requirements for the poems it will print are stated: "Poems must be idealistic, technically sound, highly original in style and content, simply and sincerely written with strong but restrained emotional appeal. No escapism, polyanism, preaching, atheism, or the vague, incoherent type of so-called experimental verse, 20 line limit."

Lilith will also teach you to write poetry of that kind if you buy her AVALON books in the sum of \$7.50 or \$8.00, which is a bargain in laughs alone.

Besides editing *Different*, teaching versification, writing rhymes of her own, rectifying bumpy verses for others at 2c per line and administering Avalon's affairs, Lilith still findeth time to operate what she calls "The League for Sanity in Poetry", and this is the League that wrote a nasty letter to Congress complaining because Ezra Pound was given the Bollingen Award. Not content with that dig, Lilith gave space in *Different* to her co-worker, Stanton A. Coblenz, for an attack upon Pound.

HFFS Eric Frank Russell took exception to the Coblenz screed and answered it in a paper which was offered to Lilith for publication. She sent it back. Russell sent it to us. Here it is:

IN DEFENSE OF POUND

"It comes hard to be in strong disagreement with one long admired, but positively I must take issue with the worthy Stanton A. Coblenz over his forthright condemnation of the 1949 Bollingen Award.

He starts off by mentioning the League of Sanity in Poetry. This may impress some people; it impresses me not one jot. What is sanity in poetry, and who says so? Is there any positive standard of sanity applicable to any given thing? If so, whose standard is it, and upon what authority is it imposed upon the rest of us?

The last question is hardly worth answering because if there is an answer I reject it, now and for evermore. In such matters I do not accept other people's standards. After all, they may not be so very sane themselves. I have standards of my own, and they may be not so sane in other estimations, but I do not demand that everyone employ only my yardstick. Let them make do with theirs. To each his own. To Ezra Pound his own.

Mr. Coblenz makes it plain that he dislikes Pound and dislikes Pound's politics even more. Pound, he declares, is or was

a traitor. What of it? George Washington was a traitor from other viewpoints. Every rebel against the momentary norm has been a traitor—and many of them were poets, by any standard.

Someone wisely remarked that, "Treachery can never succeed because the instant it does succeed it ceases to be treachery." Washington was on the winning side. Pound was not. On the strength of this, Mr. Coblenz creates a new and infallible rule by which to distinguish true poets from pretenders: the true poet must be on the winning side. Bang goes every unsuccessful call to arms, every soul-moving dirge of a defeated race. They are not poems because their composers failed to strike a political jackpot. This, I take it, is sanity in poetry!

Such oblique methods of condemnation have been tried before. Usually they fail. Fitzgerald's *Rubaiyat* once was banned from the bookshops and classrooms, damned as atheistic and blasphemous—terms far more opprobrious in those days than are the easily-mouthing tags of 'Fascist' and 'Communist' today. Even now most editions of the *Rubaiyat* are expurgated. But the poem survives; possibly the best known and most frequently quoted work in the English language. Abuse failed to drown it. Abuse likewise cannot drown *Pisan Cantos* providing they are worthy of survival on their own merits.

Pisan Cantos are alleged to be profane, but again there are various yardsticks of profanity. By mine, the *Rubaiyat* is profane, and the Holy Bible more so, but I would reject neither on that count alone. *Pisan Cantos* are condemned as coming from the pen of "an enemy of democracy"—for all the world as if democracy is something that really exists outside of a few Polynesian islands, and has existed since that democratic day when Pontius Pilate accepted the majority vote in favor of Barabbas. Really, Mr. Coblenz!

In a certain place (you know where) it is said that other poets similarly are being damned on purely political grounds. Like Pound, they failed to obey the party line. They are accused of "assimilating decadent bourgeois ideas," etc., *ad nauseum*. If we are going to take our fashions from elsewhere, and crucify Pound the Poet along with Pound the Politician, at what point do we cry, "Halt! Enough!"—and why? Do we put an end to him along with all those patriots who sold scrap-iron to Japan and, if not, why not? Do we include others whose theological views are equally disliked, plus someone with a crooked nose, a black skin? Logic is not logic unless it can be carried to an inevitable conclusion.

Ezra Pound is said to be or have been anti-Semitic. What this has to do with his qualifications as a poet mystifies me utterly. Besides, I do not recognize the existence of so fanciful a thing as anti-Semitism. It does not exist anywhere in this wide world of ours. What does exist is racial prejudice. The term anti-Semitism implies something that is not true, namely, that for special, never-explained reasons prejudice against Jews is

different from and more evil than prejudice against Red Indians, Negroes or anyone else. It is nothing of the sort. The agonies of racial prejudice are not the monopoly of the Jews; they have been long endured by thousands, Romanies especially. That, of course, does not excuse Pound—but neither is it adequate condemnation of his poetry.

Let me make it clear that I have not read *Pisan Cantos*, and if I did I might think them terrible. If Mr. Coblenz, who has read them, considers them awful beyond words, it is perfectly legitimate for him to flay them as unworthy of a red cent, much less a thousand dollars. It is anything but legitimate for him to shout, "Fetch the rope!" on any other ground.

In this respect, I feel it noteworthy and significant that while Mr. Coblenz brings his noisiest guns to bear, he refuses to fire the only one which could lay Pound in the dust. He does not mention one poetical work superior to *Pisan Cantos* by public acclaim and power to survive. If *Pisan Cantos* are as bad as he suggests, how much poorer must have been the competition they beat down! It is a sobering thought for any poet.

With the greatest respect, I suggest that Mr. Coblenz proceed to flatten Ezra Pound in the only effective way: by producing something better. On his own showing he hasn't much to conquer—and if he takes the next prize I, for one, will be truly happy.

Eric Frank Russell

HOT IN LISBON

None of our data gives the hour, but—mid-day, July 6, old style, a blast of hot air shot thermometers to record heights of 146 or 158 degrees Fahrenheit, in Lisbon, Portugal. The heat followed a hurricane and lasted two minutes. *Cr* Wheeler, Laws, Morrison, Ferguson, Oltcher, Gee and many others.

5000 DISAPPEAR

Reuters started it, apparently, by the sensational announcement that five thousand inhabitants of St. George, a Solomon island, were missing, June 21. The story, picked up by INS did not run in the *Hartford Times* until Sept. 7. However, that time-lag is not of any great importance to this particular story. The people have been "missing" since 1767. In the Paris edition of the *Hertrib*, UP admits that the people may never have existed at all. *Cr* Russell, Gee, Martin and others.

FOLEY SQUARE STENCH

The Society has no traffic with politics that can be avoided, but is ever alert to call the turn on the powers that be when they lie for a purpose. As early as the year 6 FS (1936 old style) Your Secretary began drawing attention to war-mongering, not because he was pro-German but simply to put the membership on guard against an incipient dogma masquerading as "news".

When the great atom-bomb lie was first told, YS called it by its right name as soon as possible after the event, not because he hated atoms but because the unsuspecting, pure-in-heart Fortean might

not, otherwise, have realized the depth, extent and blackness of human depravity as exemplified by the then current office-holders, "elder-statesmen", bankers, editors, scientists, military officers, *et al.*

Now comes the big stench in Foley Square, where eleven men have been convicted of thinking ill of the king. Attention is called to the 99% pure falsehood of the reportage by AP, UP and INS, which you have read in the wipers. The tenor of the lies, the nature of the threatening dogma, the purpose of the smog, are all dictated by the same Fat Boys who tried to sell us the world's phoniest "war", the atom-bomb, the freedom of the press, and some thousands of other chimeras too numerous to list.

We run up the warning signal, not because we are entering politics or because YS is a Damned Red but, because the danger of self-respecting Fortean being imposed upon is greater in this case than in any other we ever heard of. As an antidote we recommend a book, 192 pp., paper covers, THE COMMUNIST TRIAL, by George Marion. Order from the Society, \$1.00. Lincoln Steffens might have written it. That's how good it is.

COMMIES YAMMER

Thanks to MFS Guy Rogers we were informed in time to have spies at the Bill of Rights Conference, New York City, July 16-17. The conference should have been an important one. The subject was important. Instead, it was a disgraceful spectacle of steam-roller tactics on the part of the Communist Party bloc. They jammed all committees, hooted down all opposition, and arbitrarily denied civil rights to minorities.

This is a matter of first concern to Fortean, since we are fairly certain to remain a minority always, the Perpetual Third Party, no matter who "rules" the world. To be sure, no despotism ever has extinguished doubt, criticism and dissent in the past, but that is no guarantee for the future. Comes the revolution, what do we do? You may write in confidence.

LONC SLIDE-RULE

A handsome, five-inch slide-rule, made of a gleaming white composition, complete with lucite trim, red and black markings of German accuracy, a leather slip-case for carrying in the pocket, from the Society—\$7.50. This rule is standard in every way, but to all the standard features has been added the Lonc Cosmic Constant, thus facilitating the application of "1.618 plus" to all your slide-rule affairs. Made in Germany.

POLIO-TONSILS LINK

Dr. T. B. Layton, writing in the *British Medical Journal* deprecates promiscuous tonsilectomies and especially during polio epidemics. Reported Aug. 6.

Aug. 26: Two boys, aged 7 and 4, brothers, named Lukins or Luckins, died "of polio" within days after having their tonsils out. The Coroner attempted to bring out the *known* association between tonsilectomies and polio in his examination of Dr. Eric Oliver Harris, surgeon in charge of the Nose and Throat Depart-

waukie, a suburb of Portland. Anyway he buried it (probably night of July 31) and it was "still alive" when dug up Aug. 1. "When scratched with a stick the object gave off sparks and the stick started to smoke."

"Discs" over the Muhlviertel area of Upper Austria, "during the past few days," Aug. 16.

"Disk" over Portland, Aug. 16.

August 20, 21 and 22, the Air Force had a field day in all papers over something found in a Maryland barn. The net result of the flurry was that thousands more civilians were aware of "saucers" etc.

"Disc" over Sonora, Mexico, Aug. 28.

Officers at White Sands see "mysterious flying objects—one as recently as last Friday (Aug. 26) . . . One officer sincerely believes the objects are space ships."

"Saucer . . . round, almost transparent and sounded like a buzzsaw" near Snow Lake, Wash. Aug. 28.

"Fireball" over Alabama, Sept. 1. Another, not so big, same general area, Sept. 7.

"Bright, fiery, red splotches" over Falmouth and Portland, Me., Sept. 8 and before.

"Two flying saucers" over Radkersburg, Austria, Sept. 8.

"Disc" over Boston, N. Y., Sept. 12.

"Saucer" seen for an hour, over Madeira, Ohio, Sept. 11.

Erskine Johnson, a columnist, wrote—Sept. 18—that an independent film company in Hollywood is making *The Secret of the Flying Saucers*, "behind locked studio doors." We wish the picture could be kept there.

"Saucer" over Salem, Oregon, Sept. 18.

"Silver Disc" over Fairmont, W. Va., Sept. 26.

"Lighted ovals with dark centers," over Merion, Pa. Sept. 29.

A "large white ball making a hissing sound . . . hot to the touch and gave off a white vapor . . . resembled dry ice" fell out of a planeless sky, struck "spouting" of a house and broke branches of a tree, in Phillipsburg, N. J., Oct. 5.

Another MFS eye-witness report covers the Pottstown-Reading datum, Oct. 10. "Fire" and "smoke" are mentioned in the papers, but MFS Savage says he saw "only a bright line of perceptible thickness (but very thin) . . . somewhat brighter at the head end . . . first impression was, it was a skywriter, but the trail of light didn't disperse at all or widen out, rather thinned and dimmed." Savage draws a sketch of the course followed by the object, more or less like the forehead and nose of Andy Gump.

"Blinding blue-white flash of light," called "gigantic," seen in Ottawa, Toronto, Buffalo and northern Ontario, 1:00 a.m. Oct. 14. At 8:38 p.m., Oct. 16, Ottawa had a slight quake.

"Explosions and a glowing ball," at Gaillac near Toulouse, Oct. 14.

"Red glows thought to be distress signals" off Great Orme's Head, Liandudno, caused lifeboats to be launched. "The night was clear but the weather was bad." Nothing found. Oct. 21.

A chunk of red-hot metal fell into a parking lot in Oakland, Calif. Oct. 21. Identified by U of C metallurgists as *iconel*, used in jet planes. Everybody DUCK!—if you don't like to have the military pour hot metal on you you're a Damned Red.

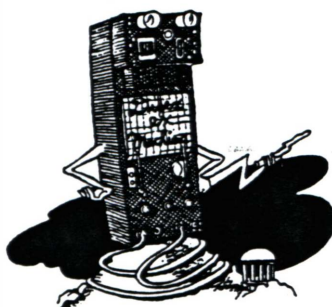
"A streak of fire" visible 15 minutes over Fort William, Ontario, Oct. 24.

Light-green, white or blue—flashed over Ontario, Buffalo and vicinity at dusk Oct. 26.

"Blue flame nearly a mile long" over Muroc, Calif., 12:15 a.m. Oct. 31.

"Three flares," apparently distress signals, off Nantucket, shortly after 5 p.m. Nov. 2. Nothing found.

Obviously the above extensive coverage required the attention of the entire membership. Our thanks to all.



WE WARNED THEM

Several issues back we revealed that Charles Fort had got hold of Zeus' thunderbolts . . . Well, on July 3, old style, a lie-detector factory IN TOKYO burned down. On Sept. 20, Leonard Keeler, arch-promoter of the lie-detector fraud, died at the age of 46, in Sturgeon Bay, Wis. Cr Russell, Reagan, Marshall.

FREEPREZ IN NIPPON

One dirty yellow-belly editor—Schichiro Morioka, of the Rengo News Agency, Tokyo—was sentenced (Sept. 20 old style) to two years at hard labor by the U. S. Army Court, for printing stories criticizing the U. S. Occupation of Japan, British rule in Malaya and civil liberties in the United States. UP calls the criticism "false"—sic. Cr Hoernlein.

LEGAL LYNCHING

Attention is called to a book, *THE CASE OF GENERAL YAMASHITA*, by A. Frank Reel. The author was one of the attorney's chosen to "defend" Yamashita against charges of "war-crime". Reel's side lost and Yamashita was executed. The book tells in detail how the railroading was accomplished. Mr. Reel complains that his "client" did not get a fair trial.

Perhaps some purpose is accomplished by such a book even now, but just what that may be is not clear. The only jurisdiction the trial court had was that imposed by force. Mr. Reel fails to tell us how force ever is to be overcome save by exertion of a superior force. Does a carp give the minnow a "fair trial"? Would Mr. Reel have moved for a change of venue when the hatchet-men

came at Trotsky? Will Mr. Reel plead for Judge Medina before the Great White Throne?

The book, from the Society, \$4.00.

WHAT SPELLMAN WANTS

Anybody who opposes Spellman, the scab grave-digger, is a bigot. What Spellman wants is a cut of the Federal tax pie for the purpose of teaching babies that if they do not have their noddles sprinkled by one of his priests they will fry in a pit of fire forever.

Because DOUBT makes no bones about such matters, the Church does its best to keep us off the newsstands. They moved in on New York City and Hollywood stands some years ago. Now they have spoken to our largest distributor in Chicago. We are out.

We have five other outlets in Chicago, however, so don't let your Cook County friends go without DOUBT.

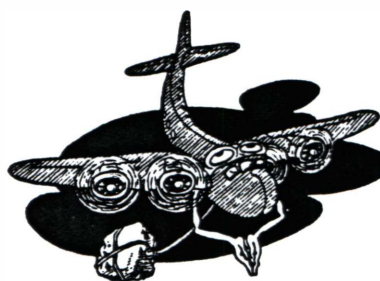
THE CONTEST

None of the entrants in the essay contest wrote to the title as given: *CHARLES FORT AND THE RELIGION OF SELF-RESPECT*. Accordingly, the time limit is extended to the end of the year 20 FS. No paper is eligible for entry unless it bears upon that subject.

SAINT PETER'S

Not only have Saint Peter's bones been found (Aug. 23) but the most recent suicide in the Basilica—a favorite spot for self-murder—was that of Luigi Calafate, called a "physics expert" (Aug. 29). Cr Pollard, Marshall and others.

PASSENGER FAILURE



Usually the air lines blame the dead pilot, but now they have got around to hanging responsibility for crashes on the suckers who buy the tickets. A London spokesman for Lockheeds, commenting upon the crash of a Royal Dutch airliner over Bari, Italy, June 23, in which 33 persons were killed, attributed the plane's explosion at 15,000 feet to a "bomb" in the passengers' luggage. Cr Deacon.

We thought that was a new wrinkle until we began looking it up . . . In the "mysterious explosion" of a Philippine Airlines plane with 13 persons aboard, May 7, AP stated that: "Police sought the identity of a man who placed a 45-pound box supposedly containing fish aboard the plane." Cr Hoernlein.

NOMINATIONS FOR 19 FS

Judge Joseph Sherbow is prominently mentioned as the best candidate for Named Fellow for 19 FS. Judge Sherbow is the judge who decreed Maryland's Ober Act Unconstitutional. The Act made membership in a "subversive" organization punishable by a fine of \$5,000 or 5 years in jail, "subversive activities" punishable by a fine of \$20,000 or 20 years, and required all teachers,—candidates for public office, etc. to take a "loyalty" oath.

QUAKE AND GLOW

A light quake was felt at El Segundo, Calif. 8:26 p.m., July 10, old style. Minutes later "a mysterious flaming brightness" was reported lighting up nearby dunes. Police "spotted" the glow but could not find its source, returned to the station, but the glow remained for nearly an hour. *Cr Hehr.*

NEO-FREUDIANA



MFS Nandor Fodor — no stranger to these columns — has a new book of case histories, dream interpretation, psychoanalysis and psychiatry, called *The Search for the Beloved*, "a clinical investigation of the trauma of birth and pre-natal conditioning, an important contribution toward the understanding of illness, anxiety and malfunction."

Of the 32 chapters, 13 have appeared at various times in technical publications, but the terminology is readily understandable to the layman. One might wish that the findings were stated with a more truly Fortean reserve, but if allowance is made for the bad habit of certitude — necessary in the clinic to give "patients" confidence — the material will bear study. Most of the "cases" are females. 400 pp., cloth, \$5.00 from the Society. MFS Fodor has consented to autograph the books sold through the Society.

MFS BUSH WRITES

I think I have found the ideal project for the Fortean Society to sponsor in its program to spend vast sums of money.

An engineer, Hugh A. Brown, has developed a theory that the polar ice caps grow, off center, until they become heavy enough to throw the globe off its present axis. This, of course would cause great tidal waves etc. destroying everything.

The suggestion is made to destroy some of the Antarctic ice to prevent this catastrophe. Herein lies our opportunity to replace war with something that could be equally satisfactory for everyone. I am listing some of the thoughts ??? I have had

Satisfies all requirements of war without

the destruction of civilians and homes, factories, etc.

Would be easy to start by horror programs and stories (like Orson Wells), scientific predictions, and religious prophecies.

Operations would be in remote regions where no one could see what was going on.

Could cost more than any war because it could go on for years and years longer than people can stand a war.

Would take great numbers of ships to patrol the area, also a great number to supply the patrol.

Operations would use both naval and aircraft.

Spending could begin at once by building a \$100 billion refrigerating plant at the North Pole to counteract the weight of the South Pole.

All countries could participate. (Even the damned reds).

Offers United Nations people a great argument for one government.

Scientists could have a wonderful time "predicting" and developing new theories.

Pulpiters would have a great selling point "the end of the world". This should catch lots of saps and dollars.

Scientists and engineers could spend years and millions charting course waters would take when the earth capsized.

Home frontiers could regiment all people to build shelters on mountain tops and underground.

Operation could be as dramatic as war, lost patrols, supplies flown to them, lost flyers, ets. etc.

It could be determined that present ships are unsuitable for this work so entire navy could be rebuilt.

Any quantity of surplus could be lost by accidents among the ice.

Mortality could be satisfactorily high because of the dangerous location and exposure.

Atom bombs used to blast the ice could create tidal waves if interest lagged.

Enough ice could probably be blasted off to flood some low areas.

I think opposition would be less than for a war because every organization, racket and cult and everybody can get on the gravy train.

Look at the millions of opportunities Fortceans would have to laugh and kick.

This could be easily expanded into a book by some intelligent author (yourself).

GRYPE LITTLE ISLE

For at least four years, the most consistently conspicuous type of data from England, week in, week out, has concerned "mysterious" mass illnesses generally attributed to "food poisoning". These outnumber American items of a like nature by at least twenty to one, and have been far too numerous to print. We have literally hundreds of them. One would think the topic would have caused a national scandal by this time, but, so

far as appears, the Britons take it quite in stride.

On the subject, Russell comments, "we are a dirty lot," but one wonders if the British press is not using this means to grind an ax. Perhaps U. S. instances are comparably numerous but the wipers don't print them. See Lincoln Steffens on the subject of "Crime Waves".

U N WHO

Accto Barrett McGurn writing in the *Hertrib*, the World Health Organization of the United Nations has \$942,000 to spend in 1950. Among the projects to be aided by this boondoggle are one to teach African natives to like peanuts, and one to teach London restaurants how to cook cabbage. *Cr Bonavia.*

PSYCHIANA STILL HOT

YS just received from Moscow (Idaho, that is) the first "Talked-to-God" mailing sent out since Robinson died. The present operators have changed nothing but the personal pronoun. Death of the shepherd has no effect on the sheep-clipping apparently.

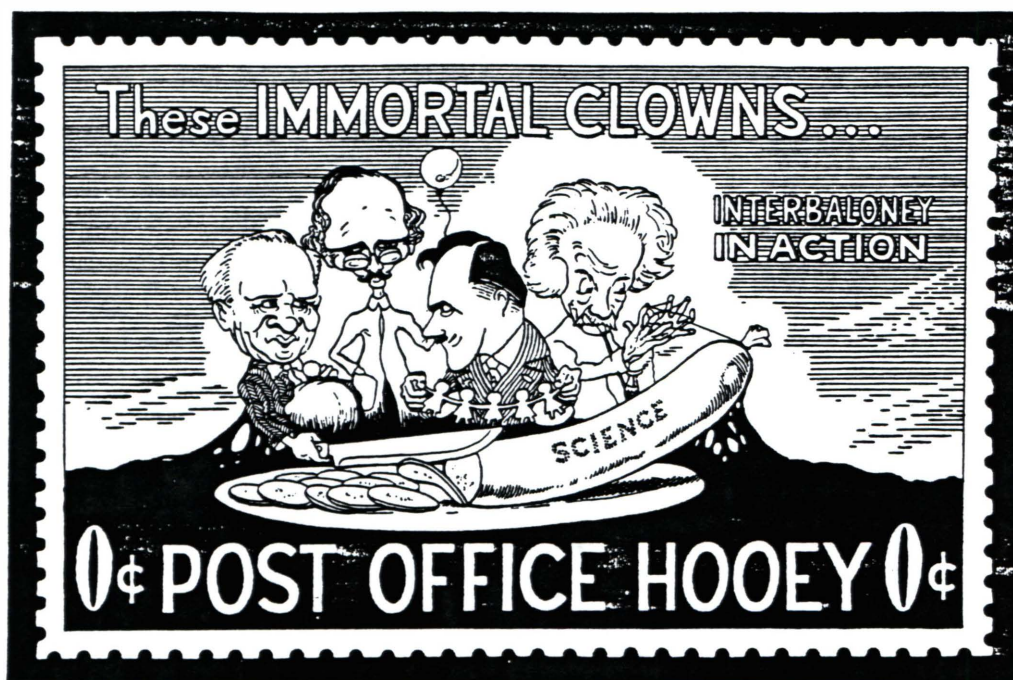
PROGNOSIS



For reasons which YS never hopes to understand certain people lust to "know the future". As if, indeed, it could possibly differ in any material way from the past, and as if their own immateriality had been made a part of Divine Plan by Yaweh, Jupiter and Venus in superior conjunction. Fort himself tried his hand at divining, as shall be related in the sequel, but as a seer his record is something worse than mediocre.

On the other hand, we have Nostradamus . . . He wants no introduction, and gets none, for his cult is a large one, within and without the Society. One Henry C. Roberts—an MFS—has made Nostradamus his own, modernly, and a new edition of his book is now available through the Society. It is *The Complete Prophecies of Nostradamus*, translated, edited and interpreted by Henry C. Roberts. The original, old-French text is included. 350 pp. cloth bound, \$3.00, from the Society. This is called "the only unabridged, definitive edition" since 1672. It reproduces the text of the Lyons edition, 1568, together with Roberts' exegesis. For those who are not already only too terribly aware of what's coming next the book may be helpful.

N.B. . . . One Johannes Lang, a German "astrologist", who claims to be a Nostradamus expert, has fallen down twice on predictions that W. F. III was about to "start" last April.



FORTEAN POSTAGE STAMP DESIGNED BY CASTILLO

HI-LEE HI-LO

The Milwaukee *Journal* printed, 7-10-49 old style, a list of the figures given by the local city directory purporting to state that city's elevation above sea-level.

1929	—	619 feet
1930	—	none given
1931	—	214 feet
1932	—	214 "
1933	—	214 "
1934	—	214 "
1935	—	214 "
1936	—	214 "
1937	—	614 "
1938	—	580 "
1939	—	580 "
1940	—	580 "
1941	—	580 "
1942	—	580 "
1943	—	none given
1944	—	580 "
1945	—	none given
1946	—	" "
1947	—	580 feet
1948	—	580 "
1949	—	620 "

WHAT EVER BECAME OF . . .

Alfred Lawson?

JESUS CARDS

We have some cards in production suitable for holiday greetings at Christmas or any other time. Unfortunately they cannot be ready for 19 FS. They are handsome reproductions of an Art Castillo drawing embodying the text of *Joking Jesus*, a poem by James Joyce. Very amusing, highly sacreligious, they will be available shortly after the first of the year 20 F.S. Each card is the size of a page of DOUBT. The price is \$1.00 for 13 cards, and that is the minimum order.

MFS EVANS WRITES

No Fortean could object to Mr. Rollo's criticism of the modernized Copernican System. Certainly I could not, as at one time I had some spirited discussions with people who out-Fort Charles Fort himself—the Flat-Earth enthusiasts who deny his acceptance that the idea of a central earth, with the stars revolving around it, is "reasonable." (*Books of Charles Fort*, page 713.) At the same time, Mr. Rollo's arguments do not convince me.

His general idea, of a central stationery earth surrounded by revolving stars whose nature is totally different from

terrestrial matter, is in all essentials that accepted by the Aristotaliens of the Middle Ages. It was indeed the established orthodoxy, supported by tradition by what was known of Greek culture, by the teaching of the Church, and by plain common-sense. For if Mr. Rollo, who is accustomed to the idea of a moving earth, finds this difficult to believe because it looks improbable, how must it have seemed to those who heard of it, or surmised it, for the first time!

This traditional view dropped out of mind simply because the Fortean of the time found reason to doubt it. Not just a few outstanding "heroes of astronomy" like Copernicus and Galileo, but a number of less famous thinkers and speculators. These early Forteans studied the observed facts and compared them with the orthodox beliefs, and were forced to the conclusion that the beliefs would not hold water. So they floated, at first tentatively, then with growing confidence, the idea of a moving earth. It was no wonder that astronomers like Tycho Brahe and thinkers like Bacon found it incredible, and that religious poets like

Addison and Milton treated it rather ambiguously.

That so improbable a view as that of the moving earth should at last have won general credence is a tribute, I think, to a certain strain of Forteanism in the human race.

The argument of Mr. Rollo which I find most difficult to get over is that based on the comparative absence of movement in sea and air. I am surprised, however, that he accepts Foucault's Pantheon experiment, as the Flat Earthers state that this gives ambiguous and contradictory results and hint that it was faked. On the other hand he does not mention what seems to me evidence of the earth's rotation, the precession of the equinoxes. Nor does he mention, what again seems likely, that the movements of the various planetary satellites suggests that the law of gravitation prevails at any rate that far out into space.

But if "the Heavens" are moving, how far does that movement extend? Does it go on to infinity—which seems unlikely! Or if beyond the stars there is something

motionless, why does it not slow down their motion? Are they frictionless, as the mediaeval Aristotelians surmised? Or are their forces beyond the stars which keep them moving and at the same time hold the earth fixed? Or must we simply say we don't know, and leave it at that?

On the whole, therefore, though I expect our present ideas of the universe to go fairly drastic revision, I do not expect a reversion to the older Aristotelian views. I do not think a Fortean must subscribe to the dogma that all current scientific theories are necessarily wrong! No doubt he should regard them as not necessarily right, but that is not quite the same thing.



RUN OF THE MILL

The German movie we Americans can't see — *Berliner Ballade* — won a prize in Venice, tying for first with *The Snake Pit* and *The Quiet One*.

Before Sept. 11, a cow was stranded in a "deep little valley" near the summit of Pikes Peak, 14,000 feet up. Nobody knows how she got there. Fate unknown.

Twenty miles from Glasgow, with practically no wind, hay-stack rose in the air to an estimated height of 300 to 700 feet. July 7. *Cr* non-member Ritchie.

Large patches of dust covered the Atlantic Ocean "as far as the eye could see" July 29, accto officers of the USS Livermore. "Large sponges were also scattered in the area . . . The Navy said the phenomenon was 'inexplicable'."

Henri Villette, *ae* 57 or 67, threw a kitten into a pond to drown it, lost his balance and drowned. The kitten crawled out. Alencon, France, Sept. 20. *Cr* Russell, Oltcher.

MORE NOTES of CHARLES FORT

The material on this page and those following comes from the MSS notes of Charles Fort. The notes begin with the year 1800 AD, and we are printing them chronologically, transcribed to the best of our ability. As you have observed from the several we have produced in facsimile—life size—the handwriting is difficult, to say the least; many are written in symbols and code, a personal shorthand. Each date is on a separate scrap of paper. They fill 32 boxes. The boxes are in two series, one numbered, one identified by letters of the alphabet. The numbered boxes contain records of non-human phenomena, the others, records of persons. It is our device to alternate the two series so that the printed record is chronologically consecutive.

The letters BA refer to Reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, which many US libraries have. The numerals, such as '11 or '64 etc., in connection with BA sometimes refer to volume number, sometimes to year. In applying for this material at your public library, mention that to the attendant and you should have no difficulty.

Back numbers of DOUBT contain all the notes to the point where we begin below. Subsequent issues will continue them until the 32 boxes are printed.

1854

(Box 2 Continued)

- Ju! 5 Eaux-Bowes / quake / C R 39/204, 205
4 Strehla, Germany / stone fall/ Acto Wolf's Catalogue BA 60-92
4 great quake Japan BA '11
17 Germany det met BA 60
18 Weld, Maine / Sounds attrib to distant th. storm / Rept Smithsonian Inst 1855-282
18 Davenport, Iowa / Tornado / Finley's Rept
19 3:30 a.m. violent quake Argeles, Hautes Pyrenees see July 19, 1868 / LT July 28, 1868
20 Night / sound like that of an explosion and quake in Vienne 15 kilometers south of Poitiers C R 39-69 7
20 2:45 a.m. in the Pyrenees / shock / Timbs '55-273
Aug whirl / Roslin / LT Aug 25, 1854, p. 10
Aug 1 Gothingan / Met train BA 60-16
5 LT p. 12 quake Pyrenees
10 Afternoon / Bradford Co., Pa / Tornado / Finley's Rept
27 6 p.m. Louisville, Ky. Tornado / Finley's Rept

- Sep 1 10 a.m. Paris / fog sulphurous odor / Cosmos 15/37
5 Fehrbellin Potsdam / Metite BA '60 (reverse) Brandenburg, Prussia (F)
5 Linum, near Fehrbellin / metite / rattling or hissing / no great detonation / A. J. Sci. 2/32/140
11 7 p.m. Stirling, Scotland, Perthshire / dense mass copper colored vapor/ no thunder / no rain / LT Sep 14 p. 12
22 LT p. 9)
26 p. 8) Tidal phe
29 p. 10)
24 Herefordshire / sounds like Cardiganshire several hours Proc. Eng. 19/144 (or 744?) Fort's query)
26 Aurora / Paris / C R 39-752
Oct 15 Durham / Derby / 9 p.m. Met larger than moon BA 67-417

Box A (Resumed)

- Fall Lights like signals / Scioto Co., Ohio / See Lum Objs
Oct 17 LT p. 8 Remarkable if true

Box 2 (Resumed)

- 18 Siderite said to have been seen by a shepherd to fall (Fletcher) Tabarz near Gotha, Germany

- BA 60-92
26 See Aug 7, 1852 / star at 7h 30m (plus 23° 54' / looked for later / disappeared
Box A (Resumed)
30 LT p. 5 Rare birds
Box 2 (Resumed)
Nov Insects / Flammarion The Atmosphere, p. 45 7/
Acto M T'ssot, in a violent wind thousands of insects, most of them alive alighting upon a plantation near Turin. Some larvae; some full grown. Said belong to an order of hemiptera / seen only in Sardinia.
Nov Turin / Insects. Some were larvae and some adult. All appeared to be of a species of hemiptera that is known in Sardinia. Bull. Heb. Assoc de France 5/242
Nov 13-14 Dr Kane in Arctic writes Arctic Explorations, 1-428 that he had looked in vain for expected meteors in 48 hours. (reverse) In 8 hours Nov 14-15, he had counted 51, what he considered a normal number.
Nov 14 L T p 8. Mets Ext.
17 Heppens, Embden etc., det. met. BA 60 - 105
Dec 4 Italy Sounds / heavy rumblings near Siena See 1816
11 India / Ice Large flakes D-178
23 Japan morning / quake and tidal wave An Reg 55-195
23-25 Quakes. W Coast U. S. A. J. Sci 71-37
23 Quake wave reached San Francisco from Japan in 12 hours, 38 minutes Panama Star, July 21, 1868.
28 Italy, Alessandria. Night 3 shocks Timbs 55-27 7
28-29 France, Marseilles Nice. Quake C R Vol. 40
29 France. Night Quake and extraordinary inundations of rivers. C R 40-138.
Dec. last of See Aug 7, 1852 Star 10th Mag disap. / not placed.
1855
1855 List of quakes in Turkey C R 42-93
1855 to 1861 N.M. Valley of Visp. Detonations ground and sky. A. J. Sci. 2/37/5
1855 List of the quakes of Nice / very many / C R 41/215 etc
Box A (Resumed)
1855 Not said this year / Dymuch Hall, Derbyshire strange murders. See March 15, 1901
1855 About sleeper — Susan Carstine Godsey — near Hickman, Ky. See July 14, 1869
1855 Disap. Clergymen LT Index (4)
Box 2 (Resumed)
1855 Rain / China Sea Shower of sand and ashes. No known volc. Trans China Branch Roy Asiatic Soc 1855-148.
Jan 7 4:15 Great meteor and train for considerable time—at sunset, near Chiltern Hills. BA 56-60
10 Ext cold and snow in Cairo which inhabitants had never seen there before. But April, re ext. C R 40-1150.
Box A (Resumed)
Jan 16 to Feb 7 During this time of severe weather cor writes of rare birds caught or shot near Stowmarket. Zoological 13-4629.
Box 2 (Resumed)
Jan 23 N. Zealand Heavy rain 9:15 quake of considerable violence. An. Reg.
25 Star seen Not placed / Star then disap. / See Aug 7, 1852.
Box A (Resumed)
Feb Extreme cold in England. See "Footprints".
Feb The coldest February on record. Not one mild day between Jan 15 and Feb 24. Eastern Evening News (Norwich) Jan 8, 1908
Feb See Leeds Devil Jan. 21, 1909.
Feb Many rare birds driven to Coast of Norfolk during the severe weather. Zoologist 13-4660. A list of about 20 species. Sailing ship, James Chester, found abandoned near where Marie Celeste found. (reverse) See a clipping Dec. 5 1872. See Elliott O'Donnell's "Strange Sea Mysteries".
Box 2 (Resumed)
Feb 7 L T p 5 Astro phe
8 Eastern Canada Quake Canadian Jour. 3/197
Box A (Resumed)
Feb 8 This night heavy fall snow followed by rain and wind Torquay Director 21st.
8 Much in papers of severity of the Winter.
8 Devons Dvls / 162 (D—final)
Feb 19 L T p 2 Devonshire Daily News of "a farmer named Ferris, who attended a feast at Blackhamton, (reverse) Devonshire, a few nights ago, was found next morning lying on his back, dead, in a field. His face, nose and eyes were very much eaten by birds or some kind of vermin."
Box 2 (Resumed)
18 From midnight to 5 AM / Samos, Greece, shocks remarkable for their regularity C R 42-93
Box A (Resumed)
Feb 21 L T p 23. Extraordinary flock of wild birds on Hayling Island near Portsmouth during the extreme weather. Many thousands of widgeons, ducks, and geese.
22 Flying Post of. Trewman's Exeter "vast quantities" of birds driven by severe weather to coast of Cornwall, from Northern regions, swans, geese, ducks—but such birds as thrushes, finches
28 30°N 40°W / crewless ship James Chester O'Donnell's Strange Sea Mysteries VXCE
Box 2 (Resumed)
28 3:05 pm / Turkey (Constantinople) For 24 hours before torrential rains and thunder (reverse) the strange odor of sulphur and great quake Timbs '56-265
Box A (Resumed)
Mar 1 Flying Post of. Trewman's Exeter—that the footprints had been found (reverse) also in Morning snow at Woodbury.
Mar 8 Flying Post of. Trewman's Exeter — that some one had traced (indecipherable word) till came to a (reverse) large toad.
Box 2 (Resumed)
Mar 28-31 France. Dry fog; odor very strong. Cosmos 15-36. Near Comrie, several miles, or cinders. Circumstantial story of its fall, but (reverse) scientists said refuse from a nearby furnace. Also Prof. Shepard's opinion that might have been genuine. Am. J. Sci., 2/28/275
Apr 23 Crieff, Perth, Scotland / Slag
Box A (Resumed)
Apr 17 L T p 12. Remarkable discovery at Tynrich.
Box 2 (Resumed)
Apr 21 See Jan 10 thermometer suddenly 27 degrees and then lower at 1:10 PM snow fell (reverse) then great hail—then the thermometer went to zero, but 5 p m suddenly went up to 27 degrees and then torrents of rain, which destroyed several hundred houses.
24-25 Remarkable coldness in France. C R 41-166
25) Moluccas and Panama quakes /
27) Norway
29) Asia Minor BA '11
28 Crieff ac to Timbs 1856-273
May 1 etc Vesuvius An Reg. 1855-83 / C R 40-227 (reverse) active at least to 8th Timbs 56-268
1 Smoke and fire at Vesuvius, after 5 years of inactivity Nature 6-43
1 Great flames of lava. No quakes in BA '11
Cold, wind, rains such as never known before at Naples. C R 40-1228
May 1 Vesuvius in the morning Nature 6-44
Box A (Resumed)
May 8 L T p 10 Shot Devonshire
Box 2 (Resumed)
May No quakes in BA '11 But see Vesuvius.
10 10 PM Quake Belg. Celt 8/38

- 11 Russia Island of Oesel meteorite A. J. Sci. 2/2/4295. (F) (reverse) BA 60-92
- 13 Th. stones / Fall of meteoric stones at Bremervorde near Hamburg during a th. storm (reverse) One weighed 7 pounds. 5 p m C R. A J Sci 2/21/146
- 13 Time of Vesuvius which active at least to Sept C R 41—under volc.
- 13 Near Hamburg / Met stones closely resembling those of Sept 4, 1852. C R June 25, 1855 (over) A J Sci. 2/2/146 2/24/259 BA 60-92
- 16 Afternoon / Lapeer Co., Mich. Tornado / Finley's Rept.
- 17 Slag / Livonia See Slags in B D
- May 18 L T p 7
- 29 p 9 Vesuvius
- 22 Jefferson and Cook Cos. Ill., Tornado Finley's Rept.
- June 7 (F) Near Ghent 7:45 p m met. stone A J Sci 2/24/296 (reverse) BA 61/33 Shaped like a sea urchin 32/140
- June 11 Vulcan / At Naples Ritter and Schmidt saw with naked eye a black body crossing sun's disk. Observat. 3-137 (reverse) C R 83/623
- 13 Singular cloud-belts in Ga. A J Sci 2/20/412
- July 10 20h 15m / quake severe and rain Los Angeles, Cal. Ref. May 13, 1850
- 25 Milan severe shock / rainy, next day a thick fog. Timbs '56-266 (reverse) also quake Switzerland, France, Germany.
- 25 6 p m / waterspout or precipitation from cloud at Oxford. Timbs '56-274
- 25 and 26 Quakes, France / Switzerland, Germany, Italy An Reg
- 25 Began series of quakes at Valais, near Sion. La Science Pour Tous, 1-5. Kept up for months. 3 kinds of sounds—detonations like artillery fire — a rolling sound — one more like thunder (reverse) Houses badly damaged — no atmospheric phe.
- 25 12:51 A M / Quake in France, Switzerland C R 41/pages
- July etc Quakes / France / Valais especially near Sion / 3 kinds of noises — like gunfire — nearby rumbling distant rumbling. L. Sc. P.T. 1/5
- 26 Ab. Sunset / warm water / near Ostend C R 44-786 Large drops of water falling from a cloudless sky. Warm water and continued $\frac{3}{4}$ hour.
- Aug 1 L T p 12 Milan quake L T Aug 2 p 11
- Aug Moon phe / L T Sept 1 p 10
- 5 Aerolite also in 1856 E Mec 79/383
- 5 Petersburg, Lincoln Co., Tenn. (F) Th Meteorite
- 5 / 3:30 p.m. / 2 miles W of Petersburg loud report and falling meteorite "during or just before a severe rainstorm". A. J. Sci. 2/31/264. When just dug out it was too hot to be handled. Nickel in it too minute to be recorded though manganese at .04 percent is noted. (reverse) Very black and shining crust as if coated with pitch.
- Aug 10 Met — by Lowe — at Beeston and Lowe as "curious". Rec Society 1/137
- 11 Great eruption Mau Loa A J Sci 2/21/139-144-237 Also Vol 22.
- 11 "On the 11th of August a small point glowing like Sirius was seen at the height of 12,000 feet on the north western slope of Mauna Loa. This radiant (reverse) point rapidly expanded throwing off corruscations of light, until it looked like a full-sized sun. A. J. Sci. 2/21/144 11:30 P M / At Tillington, near Petworth, reported by "Mrs. Ayling and friends" — Rept B A 56-54 — (?) behind it a bright light (reverse) was seen in the sky — a red body from which projected stationary rays (?) slowly — the brightness (?) that it was "like a red (?) — it rose slowly and diminished slowly — remain visible an hour and a half.
- 23 Isle of Wight — ragged lumps of ice 3 to 7 inches in circumference. Symonds Met. 13-105
- 1 LT p 10 Lunar phe.
- Sept LT bound with Oct-Dec.
- 27 Waterspout 35 miles from Calcutta. Jour Asiatic Soc Bengal 29/372
- 30 Venus Inf conjunction with Sun A 1
- Oct 2 LT p 10 Flies Gloucestershire
- Autumn Sounds of Cardiganshire LT Nov 9 1858 See Index Myst. phe.
- Oct 3 Near Langres Stone fell / C R 55/591
- 10 Spherical lichens like Lecanora Esculante found in on Dorset grounds by Sir W C Trevelyan (reverse) nothing findable in any book by Editor (Gardner's Chronicle) Feb 1856
- 10 Gardener's Chronicle of March 15, 1856 These things from local trees (reverse) Seem W. C. T., would have known the local trees. / Or he wrote this?
- 22 Taratnaki, Australia severe quake LT Jan 31 p 10
- Nov 5 "Subterranean sounds / Italy / Melfi, Rapallo, Rionero, Alella, etc. See 1816
- 11 Japan and Spain Sim q's. BA '11 (reverse) Sin qs Feb 18, 1889
- Nov 11 Quake, Yeddo, Japan 30,000 killed. La. Sci Pur Tous 1-140
- 14 Exceptional tempest in Europe.
- 18 Waterspout / Tunis / Timbs '56-274
- 14 and 20 Star Aurich Switzerland A rain that resembled red wine. (reverse) Tissandier les Pons-sieres de l'ain p 69
- 30 Evening Ab 7 p m in Worcestshire Large meteor London L T p 1
- 30 L T p 7 Waterspout in Tunis.
- 5 Quake in France C R 41/1158-1160 LSPT 1/31
- Dec 5 Earthquakes in the Pyrenees at Chaum followed or preceded by snow. La Sci Pur Tous 1-31 (over) 2 nights later while "le temps elait beau auparavant", snow again fell.
- 5) France and Celibes quakes.
- 6) Spain BA '11
- 12) France (reverse) Sim. quakes Feb 18, 1889
- 15 Unknown star near 84 Geminorum—9th mag by Hind (over) See L T Jan 1, Jan 19, p 11, Jan 24, p 10, Jan 28, p 5 See Jan 1, p 10 / Talk here of a companion to Procyon
- 19 Ab 6:15 a m / Great met and train 10 minutes Bedfordshire and Nottingham. The met about the seeming size of the moon—first seen near (indcipherable) Camelo-pardi and vanished between Capella and Persei LT p 5 L T 22 p 5
- 19 6:13 a.m. Met and train like a comet's tail left behind Beau? Fr.
- 19 Met large as moon visible 10 minutes (Aix?) by E T Lowe Rec Sci 1/138
- 19 Activity of Vesuvius noted in La Sci Pur Tous Aug 4 1859 as still continuing.
- 19 Began eruption of Vesuvius La Sci Pour Tous 1-140
- Box A (Resumed)**
- 1856 Sleeper Susan C Godsey near Hickman, Ky. See July 14 1869
- 1856 Polt. Ruseley. Murder there 1855 ab Dec. Was this Palmer? J P Cooke
- Box 2 (Resumed)**
- Jan 1 L T P 10 Variable stars / Hind's of Dec
- 2 10:10 AM Beeston / Loud report unlike thunder "could it be the bursting of a meteor?" BA '56-59
- 7 5 P M Great meteor and train that remained—like a comet's tail. Southampton. (reverse) looked like a pillar of fire. L T p 7
- 7 4:55 PM. Meteor about 19 minutes in daylight Kent, Oxford, South Canterbury, Brighton. Times quoted. BA 56-60; 57-140
- 7 About 5 P M Brighton / "Apparently proceeding from a star that I think is the planet Jupiter. BA 57/142
- 7 Meteor immediately under Jupiter / Canterbury / BA 1856-55
- 7 4:51 P M Southampton Meteor

- train M W R '07/391
 7 Meteor at Havre Det. Met. L S P T 1-61 C R 42/6178
 7 Riverhill, Sevenoaks / fell from a point 3 or 4 degrees southeast of Jupiter / B Assoc 57/142
 7 Not said an ascend met / visible from 8 to 15 minutes in various places, and in Wiltshire, 20 minutes. Intel. Obs. 4/160
 7 England and France Met train BA 60-94
 7 5:05 P M Met train ¼ hour Havre C R 42-61 (reverse) great deal on page 78 etc More than 20 minutes
 8 5 p m details great meteor of Havre & Rouen—train 20 minutes La Sci Pour Tous 1-44,69
Box A (Resumed)
 Jan 23 Steamship Pacific left Liverpool for N Y. Disap (reverse) O'Donnell Strange Sea Mysteries p 20 VXCE
Box 2 (Resumed)
 Jan 30 Switzerland Wohlen (Berne) and Mollis (Glaris) / Caterpillars. Cosmos N S 50/35 D-93
 Feb 3 8:25 pm / great det met France C R / pages det p 281
 3 8:05 PM Met Paris det met / C R 42-237, 279 (reverse) loud detonation heard at Sommevoire p 281
 3 England, Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, France. Great fireball BA 60-94
 3 Ab 8 P M. Meteor seen at Paris La Sci Pour Tous 1-78
 Feb 4 Quake Switzerland, Valley of Vesp BA '11 (not connected)
 9 2:30 PM at Pau / Series of sharp detonations. Sky cloudless C R 41/35 (reverse) BA '60
 16 4 P M / Met violent det. / BA 60-106
 16 Quake Cal meteor Eng BA '11 U Geminoron fluctuating light in periods of 6 to 15 seconds, by Pogson — Sep 26, 1856. I.B.A.A. 13-326
 2 Eruption Great Sangir in the Moluccas. Another on 17th. Timbs 57-271
 2 and 3 Volc Island of Great Sangir Aberdeen Journal Aug 13. Also hot springs opened up and cast out boiling water. March 17 — a new eruption. Loss of life about 3000.
 2 bet 7 & 8 PM began eruption of Sangir. ~3,000 perished. La Sci Pour Tous 1-279.
 17 See March 23
 2 & 17 / Eruption Great Sangir 12.5 E 4. N. News of the World Aug 3, 1856
 14 "On March 14 ab 4 o'clock M., a loud report heard similar to the explosion of a powder magazine" and concussion felt. Wiltshire Timbs '57-270
Box A (Resumed)
 Apr etc Witchcraft Staffs LT March 7 p 12 March 24, p 10
Box 2 (Resumed)
 Apr 2 Opposition Mars A 1
 7 India Kangara Light quake BA '11
 8 Colmar, Haute Rhine "areolite meteor? or April 6?"
Box A (Resumed)
 23 Vu
 May 19 LT p 10 Ext destruction of sheep
Box 2 (Resumed)
 May 23 Peculiar appearance of atmosphere at St Martin Proc Amer Assoc. 1856/237
 30 & 31 Many death of swallows N.Q. 1-12-index
 June 4 During a storm water of Lake Ontario suddenly went up 3 feet. La Sci Pour Tous 1-232
 9 Guilford Co., N. Carolina large hail stones — strong flavor of turpentine A J S 2-22-298
 25 2 A M Shock at Adelaide S. Australia Bedford Times Oct 15, 1856
 7 Cosmos 11/200 Ac to M legrip two residents of Chambon, France, had, upon July 7, seen passing in front of the moon, a human figure — disappeared — then a pond surrounded by bushes and trees — not identified with any (indecipherable) scene.
 8 Miss. / evening A J Sci 2/22/448.
 8 Hancock, Ala. 6 P M remarkable meteor seen / train 20 min. A. J. Sci. 2/23/287.
 8 Phe meteor ab 4 p m A J Sci 2/23/138
 8 "Mass of lava" fell ten miles west of Aberdeen, Miss., ac to a newspaper (reverse) as large as a barrel. A J Sci 2/24/449
 8 Pontotoc, Miss. / Col. R. Bolon writes met explosion and 3 met clouds of long duration which developed into an M with an enclosed N M Amer Met Jour 4/521
 8 Alabama 4 P M / Meteor / Am J. Sci / 2/22/448 23/138 287
 11 Caucasus During day sun a red ball "Shorn of his rays" 5 P M a quake. 300 houses destroyed. (reverse) Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper Sept. 21, p 12.
 11 Morning. Rumbling sound and violent shock Schemeka (Caucasus) (reverse) Timbs '57-270
 16 Shock at Clermont-Ferrand soon followed by a hailstorm. Cosmos 11-43
 23 Whirl in Staffordshire near Barlaston Dublin Commercial Journal Aug 9
 23 Caucasia Great quake '11
 25 Great submarine eruption in the Straits of Aniamat in Last 54 and Long 165 not said N or S or E or W Timbs 57-272
 25 Kilkenny Journal nothing
 25 Kilkenny, rain of a densely "sable hue" News of the World Aug 10, p 3 (Reverse) See May 1854?
 26 Deluge and hail size of "ordinary eggs" at Liverpool News & Examiner Aug 2
 30 9:30 P M remarkable meteor Paris C R 43-487
 July 30-31)
 Aug) Obj. ? No. Q.2-2-105, quoting the Limerick Observer. 7-9:30 at Corbally. At 10:30 PM seemed be a fire rising on a mountain to the east then a globe of fire with a tail seemed to be 18 inches long to a globe size of an orange — watched it one p m — next night again — rose, a few minutes later — was high in sky at 11, midnight, rose ab. 10.40 — seemed smaller but far exceeded size of Jupiter. Then occurred to one of the witnesses might be comet of 1556 which the astronomers was expecting which failed to appear.
 Aug 1 Editor of Limerick Observer about Aug 7 writes that his own observations had convinced him that his friends had seen Jupiter. Quake in Honduras Harpers Mag 14/164
 Aug 3 bet 2:30 & 4 PM / 2 quakes Malta Times 19 p. 7. See Oct 12 (reverse) See Dec 29 '20 Apt. 9 '22
 3 Aberdeen Journal Aug 13. "The post-runner, between Redearth and Kessock, when passing Artafelie, on last Sunday (10th) was suddenly enveloped in what appeared to be a shower of frogs. They fell fast upon his hat and shoulders and dozens of them found an easy resting place in his coat pockets. The air was quite darkened with them for about thirty (note #2) yards by fourteen or fifteen yards and the road was so densely covered with the dingy little creatures that it was impossible to walk without treading on them. They were about the size of a bee, and were quite lively when they found themselves on the road/ Make ref. Inverness Courier of 8th.
 9 Comet / Account in Limerick Observer. On 3rd night not so large "but still far exceeded the most brilliant form in which the planet Jupiter has ever been beheld.
 5) LT p 7
 11) LT p 8
 Sept 8) LT p 9
 12) LT p 6 Comet in Ireland
 Aug 5 Aerolite See 1855 Not F
 7 or 14th Acto the Sligo Journal, copied in Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper. Several persons saw an object supposed to be the expected comet /1556/ "It had the appearance of a large oval with a flaming tail. The body was a brilliant red and the other part was of a pale blue tinge. The head was inclined toward the southwest.
 8 or 10 / Unusual meteor / Eng.

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